(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the location of the Museum?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) The Government has received a proposal to establish a National Museum on Freedom Movement. The details including location of the Museum have not been firmed up.

Development of Takshila

4022. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the recent visit of the Chief Minister of Punjab to Pakistan an agreement was reached for cooperation in developing Takshila as a multi-cultural tourist destination;

(b) whether the Chief Minister, while offering a donation of Rs. 11 lakh, promised to raise funds for such development of Takshila, in view of the pilgrimage value for Hindus, Muslims and Buddhists with ancient temples, mosques and Buddhist Stupas;

(c) whether Government have also considered participation in the development of Takshila in Pakistan as a multi-cultural centre; and

(d) if so, the decision taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and would be laid on the table of the House.

Safdarjung Tomb

4023. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry has shown interest for beautification and upkeep of Safdarjung Tomb;

(b) if so, whether trade and corporate bodies are interested in monuments already protected by the ASI, which are in better shape than the unprotected monuments; and

(c) whether Government would revise its policy to entrust unprotected monuments to such associations who can render financial and physical assistance towards rejuvenating the unprotected monuments to save them from near extinction?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) No proposal has been received by Archaeological Survey of India from the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry showing their interest for beautification and upkeep of Safdarjung Tomb.

(b) and (c) Government have received proposals from corporate bodies for participation in the conservation of heritage monuments. Such proposals are considered under the guidelines of the National Culture Fund issued by the Ministry of Culture.

Guidelines on heritage sites

4024. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are thinking of formalising the guidelines on heritage sites;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether views of the State Governments have been elicited on the inclusion of the various sites located in the respective States as the heritage sites; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) Monuments/sites which are of historical, archaeological or artistic importance and which have been in existence for not less than 100 years are protected as monuments of national importance by the Central Government under the relevant provision of the Ancient Monuments, Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958. Such monuments and sites are managed in accordance with the provisions of the Act and Rules made thereunder.

(c) and (d) As per procedure, the objections/views of all interested parties including the State Government are considered before notifying various sites/monuments as of national importance under the Act.